[*Translation*]

Reduction in the Cost of Coal

3555. SHRI RAM LAKHAN SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether any effort has been made by the Government to reduce the cost of coal;

(b) is so, the details thereof; and

(c) the extent of success achieved with regard thereto?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S. B. NYAMAGOUDA):(a) and (b). effort made by Coal India Limited to reduce cost of production of coal include:

(i) Improved manpower planning including redeployment of surplus workers and restricting the intake of new employees against vacancies caused by natural wastage.

(ii) Control on increase in manpower through voluntary retirement scheme .

(iii) The Concept of 'all men-all jobs' is being tried on an experimental basis.

(iv) Improvement in the availability and utilisation of equipment by providing adequate workshop support, improved management of spares and timely rehabilitation of equipments.

(v) Increase in production and productivity with special emphasis on underground mines.

(vi) A number of systems improvement and managerial measures have been adopted to improve efficiency of operations.

(c) These efforts have yielded results inas-much as the manpower, since 1985-86 has been kept more or less constaent at around 6.7 lakhs, whereas production has increased from 134 million tonnes in 1986-86 to 189.6 million tonnes in 1990-91 i.e. by 41.5%. This increase has been achieved through increase in output per manshift from 0.92 tonnes to 1.29 tonnes during the period. As a result, the trend of increase in the unit cost of production prevailing in earlier years has been reversed reversed since 1985-86. The cost of production has increased from Rs. 213.97 per tonne to Rs. 277.18 per tonne i. e. by 29.5% over this period as against the rise in wholesale price index (all commodities) by 45.5%.

[*English*]

Computer Parks

3556. SHRI RADHIKA RANJAN PRAMANIK: Will the PRIME MINSTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Computer parks and names of places in the Country;

(b) the Criteria to open such type of parks;

(c) whether the Government propose to set up such park at salt Lake, Calcutta;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor/?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA):(a) There is no specific scheme for setting up of Computer parks in the country. There is a scheme for Software Technology parks (STPS), which is 100% export oriented. These can be set up by the State Government. Central Gov-